

February 5, 1976

SENATOR KOCH: I think we all understand the amendments purpose. I move the previous question.

SENATOR MAHONEY: Motion to move the previous question. All those in favor signify by aye, those opposed nay. Record your vote.

CLERK: Senator Mahoney voting no.

SENATOR MAHONEY: Record the vote.

CLERK: 19 ayes, 28 nays, Mr. President, on the motion to cease debate.

SENATOR MAHONEY: Motion has ... cease debate. Closing, Senator Duis.

SENATOR DUIS: Mr. President, members of the Legislature. First off I want to tell you that I'm going to vote for this bill, but I want you to remember something, now you have an additional sales tax again. How many people in this Legislature don't want to adopt anymore education for their children and such as that in regard to sales tax. We're always secure in doing this that we might raise the sales tax. Now we don't seem to have any compunction here, or whatever the word might be, about raising the sales tax in particular instances.

I want you to remember this, the sales tax and the income tax are the base of the taxation of the State of Nebraska. We are allowing an erosion of the only tax base we have. I'm going to leave you with that thought. I'm going to vote for the bill, but remember everyone of these, including the city sales tax, is an erosion of our tax base and an infringement on the State of Nebraska. I can get just a little bit worked up about this because of the reluctance to provide our own tax base when the cities and the other subdivisions of government have a real estate and a personal property tax base to work from. The responsibility for the increase of the desired amount of money they want lies on our shoulders and erodes our tax base.

SENATOR MAHONEY: Mr. Ronald Cope.

SENATOR COPE: Mr. President, members. I had hoped that we'd forego a lot of the arguments that we've used over, and over, and over. I feel it my duty, this is my bill I believe in it sincerely. I want everyone to remember this is permissive legislation. It is local control, that which we have spoken of time and time again. This money is going to be used for one purpose and one purpose only and that is for the advertising, the promotion of tourism and conventions. It's as simple as that. We are not getting the job done. I gave you figures a minute ago. We are stopping 22.5 percent of the out of state people and the tourists stop that go through the State of Nebraska. I'm going to take a little more time since it is my bill. Even with the amount of money that the state has to spend, which isn't nearly enough, there is spent, and these are 1974 figures and they are figures from the Bureau of Economic Development ... Nebraska Visitors Survey 1974, \$121,644,000 that tourist spent in Nebraska during the Summer months. This, I think, shows how....